

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04941 031951Z
ACTION OIC-02

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7901

UNCLAS GENEVA 04941

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, OCON, PDIP

SUBJECT: UNCTAD REPRESENTATION FUNDS FOR COMMODITY
MEETINGS

REFERENCE: (A) STATE 12304, (B) STATE 35864

1. ON TWO OCCASIONS IN THIS FISCAL YEAR, DELEGATIONS TO COMMODITY MEETINGS HAVE SPENT MORE ON REPRESENTATION THAN THE ALLOWED AMOUNT. IN BOTH CASES A DELEGATION BROUGHT ALONG EXTRA GUESTS. IN ADDITION, FOR THE MEETING ON RUBBER, THE US DELEGATION FELT IT IMPORTANT TO HOST BOTH A LUNCH FOR PRODUCERS AND DINNER FOR CONSUMERS AND WITH THE DECLINE IN THE VALUE OF THE DOLLAR, FUNDS SIMPLY WERE NOT ADEQUATE. WHILE THE MISSION AND DELEGATION HEADS TO ALL MEETINGS ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE APPROVED AMOUNTS AND SEEK TO INSURE THAT SPENDING IS HELD WITHIN THE LIMITS, EVENTS SUCH AS THOSE DESCRIBED ABOVE MAY UNEXPECTEDLY PUSH THE EXPENDITURE ABOVE THE ALLOWANCE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE MISSION RECORDS FOR THE PERIOD OCT. 1, 1977 - MARCH 3, 1978, \$3100 HAD BEEN APPROVED FOR COMMODITY MEETINGS OF WHICH \$2500 WAS SPENT. THIS \$2500 DOES NOT, HOWEVER, INCLUDE THE OVERAGES OF \$50 FOR THE HARD FIBERS MEETING OF JAN. 30 - FEB. 3 (DEPT. OF COMMERCE
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REPRESENTATIVE OUT OF POCKET) AND \$230 FOR THE RUBBER MEETING OF FEB. 27-MAR. 3 (MISSION OFFICER OUT OF POCKET.)

3. MISSION UNDERSTOOD WASHINGTON REPS WERE GOING TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THESE TWO MEETINGS FROM OIC BUT NOTHING HAS BEEN HEARD TO DATE. MISSION THEREFORE REQUESTS THAT REPRESENTATION FUNDS FOR THESE TWO MEETINGS BE

INCREASED TO COVER THE OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES FOR THESE TWO
INDIVIDUALS. MISSION WILL OF COURSE RE-EMPHASIZE TO
DELEGATIONS THE NEED TO KEEP REPRESENTATION WITHIN
ALLOWANCES. VANDEN HEUVEL

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